

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MARTIN 00334 172122Z

71

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 FDRE-00 HEW-06

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01 SCSE-00

EB-07 IO-13 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /087 W

----- 026232

O 172000Z AUG 76 ZFF5

FM AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2367

INFO SECDEF IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

USCINCRD IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

CSA IMMEDIATE

CNO IMMEDIATE

CSAF IMMEDIATE

CMC IMMEDIATE

EMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0372

COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS PR IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MARTINIQUE 0334

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AEMR, PINT,FW

SUBJECT: GUADELOUPE VOLCANO

REF: STATE 202854, HOLMES-SHACKLETON TELECON AUG 16.

FOLLOWING THE ERUPTION EVENING 16 AUG OF THE SOUFRIERE VOLCANO, I SENT TELEX TO THE PREFET OF GUADELOUPE INFORMING HIM OF OUR READINESS TO AID IN ALLEVIATING DISTRESS IN GUADELOUPE WITH EARLY SHIPMENT OF BLANKETS, COTS, TENTS, ETC.. ALONG LINES EARLIER DISCUSSED IN REF TELCON, AND ALSO RAISING POSSIBILITY OF PHOTO RECON FLIGHT TO STUDY VOLCANIC ACTIVITY. THE MESSAGE UNFORTUNATELY HAD TO BE SENT VIA TELEX AS IT HAS BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MARTIN 00334 172122Z

IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH THE PREFET BY PHONE. I PREVIOUSLY HAD

INFORMED THE PREFET AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF GUADELOUPE
IN GENERAL TERMS OF OUR ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO RENDER AID
IN THE EVENT OF AN ERUPTION WITHOUT, HOWEVER, MENTIONING
SPECIFIC ITEMS. WE HAVE AT THIS POINT NO WAY OF KNOWING WHAT
THE LIKELY RESPONSE WILL BE. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN
PREPARED FOR THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS FOR A DISASTER SITUATION
IN BASSE-TERRE AND WE UNDERSTAND IT HAS AMPLE STOCKS AND SUPPLIES
TO MEET AN EMERGENCY. YESTERDAY'S ERUPTION AND EARTHQUAKE
APPEAR NOT TO HAVE BEEN MAJOR. NO LOSS OF LIFE OCCURED AND THERE
WAS NO PROPERTY DAMAGE EVEN IN THE AREAS ADJACENT TO THE OFF-LIMITS
AREA BETWEEN VIEUX HABITANTS AND CAPESTERRE. THERE WAS HOWEVER
A FLOW OF MUD OR LAVA TOWARD CAPESTERRE. ACCORDING TO OUR
LATEST INFORMATION, EXPERTS MOVED TO THE VOLCANO TO STUDY THE
SITUATION THIS MORNING IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN POSSIBILITY OF
ANOTHER ERUPTION. MATTERS HAVE BEEN COMPLICATED BY HEAVY CLOUD
COVER WHICH HAS DELAYED FURTHER STUDY. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES,
THE EVACUEES MAY BE FORCED TO DELAY THEIR RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.
FOR THIS REASON, OUR OFFER OF AID MAY BE ACCEPTED.
SHACKLETON

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NNN

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